Secretaries of Tribal Welfare to ensure timely submission of proposals for release of funds and to speed up implementation of schemes.

(iv) At the State-level, the agencies like Tribal Advisory Committee, Project Implementation Committee of ITDPS at Block-levels, and Panchayat Samities monitor timely spending of money and effective implementation of schemes.

Tribal status to Gaddies and Gujjars in H.P.

† 110. SHRIKRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a)whether he is aware of the fact that 'Gaddies' and 'Gujjars' were given the status of scheduled tribe in Himachal Pradesh prior to 1966, but after the reconstituuon of the State in 1966 anomaly has been created by not giving the status of scheduled tribe to 'Gaddies' and 'Gujjars' of the areas included in Himachal Pradesh;

(b)whether it is a fact that Himachal Pradesh Government has forwarded all required information to his Ministry; and

(c)if so, the action being taken to remove the anomaly?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) to (c) 'Gaddi' and 'Gujjar' communities have been notified as scheduled tribes in relation to the areas which formed Himachal Pradesh prior to November, 1966 and in relation to areas merged in Himachal Pradesh on account of re- organization of Punjab in the year 1966, these communities are treated as Other Backward Class (OBC). The Government of Himachal Pradesh has recommended that these communities may be declared as Scheduled Tribes throughout the State. The proposal of Government of Himachal Pradesh has been processed in accordance with modalities approved for deciding such claims.

P.M.'s concern regarding corruption in DDA

111. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': SHRI KRISHNA KUMARBIRLA: SHRI KAPIL SIB AL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENTAND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister has expressed serious concern over rampant corruption, lack of accountability and absence of redressal mechanism in DDA;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether Government have taken any further action on the views of PM;

(c) if so, the details of the action plan formulated to remove corruption etc., in DDA; and

(d) the number of complaints received against the DDA in the past one year and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE INTHE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOP-MENTAND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRIBANDARU DATIATRAYA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Based on analysis of representations received in the Prime Minister's Office, Hon'ble Prime Minister, in a recent communication has pointed the problems of a generic nature faced by Delhi Development Authority (DDA) applicants, as well as shortcomings in the mechanism for redressal of grievances. TTie problems mainly relate to delays encountered in allotment of plots/flats, transfer of registration in favour of legal heirs, refund of registration money, change of address, issue of demand cum allotment letters, possession letters, etc. and inadequate response from DDA to redress the grievances. DDA has initiated action and examination in depth of cases of delay in public dealing departments. Several short term and long term measures have been initiated by DDA to train its work force, introduce computerization and e-governance as well as exercising strict vigilance at all level.

(d) The DDA has reported that 967 representations with respect to the DDA were received in the Prime Minister's Office from January, 1999 to June, 2001. Action on them has been taken.

Urban population in India

112. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENTAL POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at a recent seminar on the United Nation Centre for Human Settlement, it was revealed that the urban population in India, which is 285 million today, will double in the next 25 years;

(b) whether out of the 285 million people living in our cities, 17 million live below the poverty line;

(c) whether it is estimated that Rs. 22,000 crore are required annually to provide drinking water and sanitation alone to its urban inhabitants; and